

U. S. SOLDIERS GUARDING A BRIDGE ON THE BORDER

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE

Twentieth United States infantry guarding a railroad bridge over which troops must pass going into Mexico.

EXTENDS CORN AREA

New Discovery Pushes Belt Much Farther North.

Experimenters at Minnesota University Stumble Upon Way to Make Grain Germinate More Quickly With Nitrobenzene.

Minneapolis, Minn.—Scientists at the farm of the University of Minnesota have announced a discovery which may result not only in vastly increasing the corn production of Minnesota and other states but in extending the northern limit of the corn belt much nearer Hudson bay.

The announcement comes at a time when seed corn shortage is reported to be particularly acute. Bank and railroad officials of the Twin Cities are trying to help farmers get seed and prices are said to be as high as \$6 a bushel, with prospects of going up to \$8 or \$10 by planting time.

If future tests sustain present indications of experiments carried on at the university, every bushel of corn planted may be made to send up more sprouts and these sprouts may grow so fast that several weeks may be gained in the maturing time of the kernel.

The discoverers believe they have found, quite by accident, a commercially practicable method of increasing both the germination efficiency and the germination rate of seed corn. It came about in experimenting with various insecticides to be used in treating grains.

Prof. William Moore of the entomology department and Prof. P. K. Hayes of the agronomy department have been working on fumigation processes for killing grain parasites. It was important that germination qualities of grain treated should not be impaired in fumigating, so they regularly checked plantings of the treated grain against plantings of the untreated.

It was in connection with the use of nitrobenzene that they bumped into the unexpected. They found that not only was the grain not impaired for seed purposes, but that it actually was bettered. Corn seemed to thrive on the fumes of nitrobenzene. Not only was the percentage of germination increased by treatment, but the rate of germination also was speeded up.

The experimenters checked and rechecked, again and again, with the same results. An experiment with 1911 corn, for instance, brought out that the fumigated seeds sprouted nearly two weeks before the unfumigated, when planted at the same time, and of the former about 18 per cent more kernels germinated than of the latter.

"We are not saying that the treatment will so result with all corn," Professor Moore said, "as our experiments have not gone far enough to justify so sweeping a statement, but

HIS HUMP AN OPIUM CACHE

Detroit "Hunchback," Arrested With Can of Drug, Is Accused of Smuggling.

Detroit, Mich.—It was learned that James R. Reynolds, well known in Detroit for the last ten years and supposed to be a hunchback, is not deformed at all. When arrested here recently Reynolds had a can of opium in his hump.

According to the police, Reynolds made frequent visits to Canada. There he bought opium, placed it in his hump, for which a tailor had generously provided by extra cloth and padding and brought the drug to Detroit.

From here the opium was shipped to New York, Boston, Chicago and San Francisco. A woman known as the "Hump Beauty," who was recently arrested in Detroit and ordered out of town, is said by the police to have been an accomplice.

Jailed for Three Words.

New York.—Three words—"Bad evening, girls"—were enough to prove to John Alfering that the night was stormier than was expected. Thirty days for accosting two girls was the sentence.

Fined for Teaching German.

New York.—Justice Groen has ordered Ray McCann to pay Mrs. Margaret Elcock \$10 for teaching the latter's parrot to speak German.

we expect to wind up the most significant test of all on the subject next week, after which we shall have something to announce.

"Nitrobenzene is an oil, a coal tar derivative. Its price has been raised somewhat by war causes, but it is commercially obtainable. We fumigate the corn by placing it in a closed box in which is suspended a cloth saturated with the oil. The fumes do the work."

"We think well enough of present indications to make known our findings at this time, so that farmers who are facing a critical seed corn situation may try out the process if they see fit."

"Why does the treatment so affect the corn? We haven't the slightest idea. We only know that it has had that effect with corn we have treated."

Drowned in Beer.

Dahlonega, Ga.—While trying to dip some beer from a well which had been filled with the liquid by revenue officers, following a raid on a "wild cat" still, Homer and Jack Wehnt and Charles Garris fell into the well and were drowned.

Girls Study Scrubbing.

Winsted, Conn.—Girl students at the Gilbert high school here will be taught scrubbing, washing and ironing. Twelve enameled washtubs have been installed.

SNOW HITS FORESTS

Heavy Fall During Winter Causes Big Damage.

Logging and Milling Operations Hampered, Resulting in Decrease of Timber Sale Receipts—Not Without Beneficial Side.

Washington.—According to forest service officials, the unusually heavy snowfall which has signalized the past winter in most of the West has materially affected national forest business. Timber sale receipts have decreased in some regions because logging and milling operations have been hampered by deep snow and exceptionally cold weather. The same factors have given stockmen using the national forest ranges much concern, although as yet there have been no severe live stock losses reported. The foresight of the stockmen in providing winter feed, which is now generally practiced, makes a recurrence of the former immense losses very unlikely. The damages caused by the snow and resulting slides and floods to forest service trails, telephone lines and other permanent improvements are not yet known, but undoubtedly are heavier than usual and their repairs will make much spring work for the rangers.

Most of the railroads in crossing the mountains of the Northwest run for considerable distances through the national forests. Reports from the forest officers show that some of the roads have had a strenuous struggle with the snow to keep the lines open. The great rotaries have had hard work to plow through the huge drifts. Snowslides have swept down the steep slopes, filling the cuts, burying the tracks to a great depth, and not only blocking all traffic but in several cases destroying life and property. These slides usually occur on slopes where fire has destroyed the timber, leaving nothing to hold the snow in place, according to the forestry officials, who assert that a thrifty stand of timber on the mountain sides is the best possible safeguard against these destructive avalanches.

The deep snow is not without its beneficial side, say the forest officers. It will lie long on the slopes and ridges, keeping the ground moist until late in the spring, and thus greatly reducing the danger of early fires which sometimes occur with serious consequences. A spring fire usually destroys little timber, either green or dead, but sweeps rapidly over stumps and old burns, feeding on the dead vegetation of the preceding year. Its menace to property and life in remote settlements has been demonstrated. By keeping the ground moist until it is covered with green vegetation through which fire will not run,

MAN THE WOMAN WANTED

Five Who Were All Right Returned Because She Wished to Hire a Negro.

Indianapolis.—W. C. De Miller, federal labor commissioner in Indianapolis, has decided that he has reached the point where patience ceases to be a virtue. Recently, among his many daily requests for laborers, he received a request from a woman who lives on a farm near Greenwood. It outlined qualifications as follows:

"I want a man who neither smokes, drinks, chews nor swears. A widower, if possible, who has had experience, and I do not care if he has one or two children. He must not be afraid of work and must have good health and must have clean habits. Please send me ten or fifteen men of this character and I will select the one I want."

De Miller eventually found five men who were willing to make the trip and take their chances of obtaining the position, but when the five men returned to the labor commissioner's office that same evening De Miller was somewhat surprised to hear them explain that none of them could meet with the woman's requirements.

"And why?" demanded De Miller. "Because she wants a colored man," was the unanimous reply.

Cruel and Inhuman.

New York.—Declaring that her husband's "cruel and inhuman" treatment caused her to lose 14 pounds, Mrs. Morris W. Henry has applied for a separation.

the great snowbanks become active agents in preventing spring fires.

ROYALTY NURSES WOUNDED

Heavy Fall During Winter Causes Big Damage.



Nearly all members of the Austrian royal family are engaged in charitable work connected with the relief of those afflicted in some way by the war. The photograph shows the Archduchess Maria Theresa at work in one of the Austrian hospitals.

NEAR DEATH AT BAPTISM

Preacher and One He Was About to Immerse Ventured Too Far.

Redlands, Cal.—The waters of the Santa Ana river came near claiming two victims near here lately, when eight converts of the Mexican mission on Herald street were baptized in the icy waters.

Rev. Francisco Lorente, the minister of the church, and one of the converts ventured out too far in the swift stream and the current threw them off their feet.

While the terrified members of the little church looked on they battled desperately for their lives and finally succeeded in reaching the bank. The minister proceeded with the service and baptized the remaining converts, although it was done nearer the shore.

Steals Bible to Get Drink.

La Crosse, Wis.—"Charlie" Ross wanted a drink but didn't have the price, so he offered to trade a Bible for a glass of whisky. The deal did not go through because the bartender had Ross arrested. It was found that the Bible had been stolen from the city mission.

POULTRY

SECURE YELLOW-YOLKED EGG

Poultry Department of Iowa State College Tells Secret—Feed Corn With Clipped Alfalfa.

Eggs with a richly colored golden yolk, from a market standpoint, are more desirable than the pale-yolked variety. Due to lack of green range feed in the winter, such eggs are not normally laid during cold weather. To produce them, though, is quite a simple matter if you know how. The poultry department of the Iowa State college tells the secret.

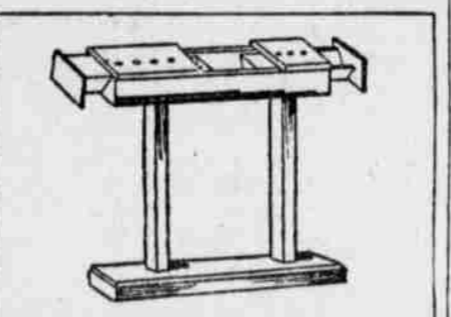
Yellow corn with clipped alfalfa or sprouted oats are winter feeds that put the color in the yolk. Stemmy alfalfa will not do, as it is too coarse and contains too much fiber. The alfalfa must be leafy. Alfalfa or clover sweepings from the hay mow make an excellent winter poultry feed. To keep the hens from scratching it about a rack or box may be provided, covered with coarse mesh poultry wire through which the birds may pick the leaves.

The fact that green feeds produce the desirable yellow-yolked eggs is an advantage of only secondary importance. The fact that they furnish food elements not to be had otherwise, and that are very much needed at this season of the year, is of far greater importance. The green feed is a necessary item to stimulate the general health of the fowls, as well as their laying ability, during the winter.

GATHERING UP ALL VERMIN

Trap Shown in Illustration Which Is Part of Perch on Which Birds Roost at Night.

Chickens are very subject to several kinds of vermin, which must be kept down in a measure, or they get so numerous that the birds' peace of mind is so greatly disturbed that it interferes with the bird's egg-laying possibilities. A new invention is shown herewith by which it is designed to keep down the numbers of the pest by catching them in a trap, which is combined with the roost on which the birds sleep. The habits of the chicken lice and other pests of this character is to get at the birds while they are roosting, and they attack the birds in such numbers that its health is seriously interfered with. After sucking the bird's blood the insects return to the crevices to be found in the wood



Trap for Chicken Lice.

work about the perch, so as to be ready for subsequent visits. The features of the new trap is that it enters into the construction of the perch. There are holes along the length of the perch which make inviting harboring places for the vermin; but when they enter these they are overcome by the fumes of a germicide contained in trays which are disposed of within the interior of the perch. For convenience in cleaning these trays may be with drawn from the ends without disturbing the perch.

REMEDY FOR A BUMBLE FOOT

Trouble Often Caused by High Roosts or Frozen Ground—Simple Treatment Is Recommended.

Bumble foot is caused by a bruise. This may come from frozen ground, or from flying down from a height to a hard-surfaced floor. Often roosts are entirely too high, and the force with which the bird strikes the ground injures the foot.

Whenever a bird is seen to be limping, examine the bottom of the foot. If there is pus, make a cross on the sole of the foot, disinfect with any household disinfectant, and apply a soothing ointment. Bandage well, and put the bird in a coop on soft litter.

Fowls Need Plenty of Air.

Do not be afraid to give your birds plenty of air during the cold months. Open the doors and windows wide on sunny days, but be sure to shut them up again before the sun goes down.

Leaky Roofs Cause Trouble.

Does your henhouse leak when it rains or the snow melts? Many winter poultry troubles are caused by leaky roofs.

Keep After the Vermin.

It pays to fight lice winter and summer. If you don't see them, just imagine they are around and keep after them.

Take Care of Fowls.

Better have fewer fowls and take care of them properly, than many and neglect them.

Place Dust Bath in Sun.

Place the dust bath where the sun can shine on it; then the hens will use it more freely.

NATIONAL CAPITAL AFFAIRS

To Put Plattsburg Idea Into Effect at Sea

WASHINGTON.—Secretary Daniels and his advisers decided to inaugurate a system of civilian naval training similar in general outline to that on which military training camps have been established at Plattsburg and elsewhere. It is planned to use six battleships to take those who present themselves for training for a month's cruise, beginning about August 15.

The vessels to be utilized as training ships will take on their student personnel along the Atlantic coast, probably at New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Norfolk, Portland and Charleston. It is estimated that the six battleships will make possible the training of 2,500 men. A similar project next year for development of the plan on the Pacific coast.

The plan, which was drafted by Assistant Secretary Roosevelt, proposes that the cost to the men shall be sufficiently low to enable those in moderate circumstances to join. The only compulsory requirement is that each volunteer declare his intention of giving his services to the navy in case of war. It is not proposed to require an oath, but merely a declaration of intent.

The object of the plan is to establish a naval reserve of civilians exclusive of former enlisted men and those of the professional seafaring classes. Navy department officials are confident a sufficient number of men will respond to make the undertaking a success.

Federal Health Service Makes War on Washrag

NOW comes the crusade for the extinction of the common washrag. Having swatted with a large measure of success the common towel, the public health service has found a new target in its companion piece, the washrag. In an official announcement the public health service, modestly admitting a large success in its campaign against the common towel and the roller towel, says:

"Now comes the news that the common washrag is an even greater menace to health."

"The hotels and public hostleries have recognized this for some time, and have supplied their guests with sterilized washcloths in individual sealed packets. The damp, 'sour-smelling' washrag still exists, however, in many private bathrooms. Improperly washed out after use, frequently not wrung out at all, it is often hung over a rack or a radiator near an open window, there to collect dust and dirt. Frequently the same washrag is used by the entire family, thus affording an easy means of transference of mouth secretions from person to person. In many households each individual has his own washcloth, and his individual towel, but these hang so close to one another that there is ready interchange of bacteria. Each individual should have his own washcloth. It should be thoroughly washed out with clean hot water after use. It should be then wrung as nearly dry as possible, and, if possible, hung in the sun to dry. It should not come in contact with other washcloths. In the investigations the United States public health service is conducting in regard to the prevalence of trachoma, it has been found that common towels probably acted as a medium of distribution of the germ of disease."

Library Devoted Solely to Subject of Fish

CAN one imagine a whole library devoted to fish? There is one in Washington, which is the best fish library in the world, and it is among the most useful institutions of its kind existing, for, the Washington Star says, it is one of the most live and up-to-date scientific libraries with which this government supplies its scientific investigators.

This is the library of the bureau of fisheries, and the custodian, who has done the greater part of the work in building and systematizing this one of the most active and useful scientific aids of its kind, is a woman—Miss Rose MacDonald—thoroughly competent to care for the special library of which she is the head. She is the one woman in the federal service who has passed the civil service examination as a fish culturist, having entered the office and passed the examination as a specialist eight years ago. During the intervening years she has kept up with the scientific progress of this important bureau of the department of commerce.

"The library of the bureau of fisheries is the finest of its kind in the world," said Miss MacDonald recently. "I feel almost certain that nowhere else can there be found so extensive a collection of literature pertaining to aquatic biology. You perhaps know that the subject of fish conservation is one of the biggest questions before the commercial world of today. The fish food problem is a great branch of our work, as are fish diseases. Everything done in the work tends toward the problem of economy and efficiency in fish conservation, in which the matters of fish food and fish diseases bear a vital part."

It remained for a public-spirited woman to throw the weight of her influence and to inspire others with her enthusiasm in the building of houses worthy of their environment. This is Mrs. Mary Foote Henderson, widow of John Brooks Henderson, senator from Missouri during the thrilling days from 1862 to 1869, and illustrious in many ways.

Boundary Castle, the home of Mrs. Henderson, is in its way the beginning of an epoch, and it must always stand as the first step toward a proper residential section on the proper streets.

Washington has no building laws. Only public opinion and the awakened sense of beauty may prevent the stately mansion of marble being elbowed by a shanty of cast-off bricks. Mrs. Henderson did yeoman work in arousing this sentiment, and her first step was this picturesque feudal pile crowning a splendid eminence at the head of Sixteenth street.

Boundary Castle was built when the hill was virgin ground and was the only considerable mansion on the boundary of the city for a full half mile. Now the magnificent avenue is lined on either side with mansions which show plainly the influence of Mrs. Henderson's crusade.

Some six or eight of these imposing residences were built by Mrs. Henderson and are leased to various foreign governments. They represent a post-graduate course in the art of correct building and are in a way a renaissance for architecture in the domestic sense in the national capital.

What Mrs. Henderson has done for art in Washington, or, rather, for artists, would make a fascinating chapter. She has a superb art gallery at Boundary Castle, and she proves her interest in all rising geniuses by buying of their work.

